

February 3, 2012

Smarter Balanced  
Assessment Consortium

SBAC

e-Alert

SBAC

Connecticut State Department of Education

Bureau of Student Assessment

## Item Specifications and Guidelines

SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium is in the process of developing item specifications and guidelines. Item specifications and guidelines provide specific guidance to item writers on how to translate the Common Core State Standards (as articulated through the [SMARTER Balanced Content Specifications](#)) into actual assessment items. SBAC work group members and member state leads did an earlier round of review and are now enlarging the circle to include teachers, LEA staff, the vendor community, and others. The revised documents are available on the [SBAC Web site](#) under "SBAC 04 Showcase 2 Item Specifications Materials."

Submit feedback to SBAC through an [online survey](#). Feedback on these documents is due by **February 9, 2012**.

The documents below are followed by a list of people best qualified to review them:



**Draft General Accessibility Guidelines**: Directors of Offices for Students with Disabilities or special education specialists; Specialists on English Language Learners or administrators who run programs for these students.

**Draft ELA General Item Specifications**: ELA Specialists, coaches, teachers

**Draft Math Item Specifications**: Mathematics Specialists, coaches, teachers

**Draft Performance Task Specifications**: ELA and Mathematics Specialists, coaches, teachers

**Draft Stimulus Specifications**: ELA and Mathematics Specialists, coaches, teachers

**Draft Style Guide**: Academic specialists in educational measurement

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[www.SMARTERbalanced.org](http://www.SMARTERbalanced.org)

Contact the Student Assessment Office at 860-713-6860 or 860-713-6890 with questions.

[Connecticut's SBAC Web site](#)

